

**CHESTER RURAL DISTRICT**

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**ANNUAL REPORT**

**OF THE**

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

**AND THE**

**CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR**

*For the year 1956*

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**W. J. BIRCHALL,**

**M.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.**

**H. E. STONE,**

**M.A.P.H.I.**



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Medical Officer of Health  
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*For the year 1956*

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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of the Chester Rural District for the year 1956.

The National Vital Statistics show an increase in the Birth Rate. The Death Rate remains stationary, whilst the Infant Mortality Rate shows a further decline, and is in fact the lowest ever recorded in this country.

Locally there is an increase in the Birth and Crude Death Rates, and a decline in the Infant Mortality Rate.

Whooping Cough (55 cases) was the most prevalent Infectious Disease, followed by Scarlet Fever and Measles (21 cases each). There were 2 cases of Poliomyelitis notified, one of which was paralytic and the other non-paralytic.

From the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector, it is seen that the appointment of an additional Inspector has enabled the Department to cope with the increased amount of work involved in the new Food Hygiene Regulations and the Slum Clearance programme.

Included at the end of the Report is my Annual Report as Divisional Medical Officer, on the Personal Health Services operating on behalf of the County Council in the South West Cheshire Division, of which Chester Rural District forms part.

My thanks are due to the Chief Public Health Inspector, and the Staff of the Health Department for their help and co-operation throughout the year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

W. J. BIRCHALL, M.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

## NATIONAL STATISTICS

The Birth Rate for England and Wales for 1956 was 15.7 per 1,000 population, compared with 15.0 for 1955.

The Death Rate for England and Wales for 1956 was 11.7 per 1,000 population, the same as for 1955.

The Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales, i.e., Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births was 23.8, the lowest ever recorded in this country; the rate for 1955 was 24.9.

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### CHESTER RURAL DISTRICT STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

#### SECTION A

Area: 43,677 acres.

Population Mid 1956 .....	27,680
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1956) according to Rate Books .....	7,316
Number of houses built in 1956 (by Private Enterprise 82, by Local Authority 70) Total .....	152
Rateable Value at 1st April, 1956 .....	£299,583
Product of 1d. Rate at 1st April, 1956 .....	£1,330

The Chief Industry of the District is Dairy Farming.

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#### EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1956

##### Births

Live Births	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Legitimate .....	216	198	414
Illegitimate .....	8	7	15

Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated civilian population—15.5.

Using Comparability factor of 1.18 the adjusted Birth Rate is 18.3.

Still Births	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Legitimate .....	2	3	5
Illegitimate .....	—	—	—

Rate per 1,000 (Live and Still) Births—11.5. Still Birth rate per 1,000 civilian population—0.18.

Deaths

MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
196	265	461

Death Rate per 1,000 population—16.65. By use of a Comparability factor of .70 the adjusted Death Rate is 11.65.

Deaths (due to maternal causes):

Pregnancy, Childbirth.... Nil

Deaths of infants under one year of age:

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Legitimate .....	2	3	5
Illegitimate .....	—	—	—
Infant Mortality rate, i.e., per 1,000 live births—11.65.			

Deaths of Infants under four weeks of age:

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Legitimate .....	2	2	4
Illegitimate .....	—	—	—

The natural increase in population (that is excess of births over deaths) is shown in the following tables.

NAT. INC. PER 1,000			NAT. INC. PER 1,000		
YEAR	POP.	POP.	YEAR	POP.	POP.
1945 .....	17,510	7.9	1951 .....	25,590	4.14
1946 .....	18,310	8.02	1952 .....	25,580	2.8
1947 .....	18,590	9.5	1953 .....	26,250	0.45
1948 .....	19,710	6.2	1954 .....	26,790	0.5
1949 .....	20,330	3.7	1955 .....	26,810	1.35
1950 .....	23,610	5.16	1956 .....	27,680	1.15

The natural increase in population (that is excess of births over deaths) (1945-1956) (England and Wales).

PER 1,000			PER 1,000		
YEAR	POP.	YEAR	POP.	POP.	POP.
1945 .....	4.7	1951 .....	3.0		
1946 .....	7.6	1952 .....	4.0		
1947 .....	8.5	1953 .....	4.1		
1948 .....	7.1	1954 .....	3.9		
1949 .....	5.0	1955 .....	3.3		
1950 .....	4.2	1956 .....	4.0		

Table of number of Live Births and Birth Rates (1945-1956).

YEAR				BIRTH		YEAR				BIRTH	
				NUMBER	RATE					NUMBER	RATE
1945	....	....	....	340	19.41	1951	....	....	....	315	12.31
1946	....	....	....	327	17.85	1952	....	....	....	293	11.45
1947	....	....	....	383	20.6	1953	....	....	....	348	13.25
1948	....	....	....	329	16.7	1954	....	....	....	343	12.80
1949	....	....	....	303	14.9	1955	....	....	....	365	13.61
1950	....	....	....	322	13.6	1956	....	....	....	429	15.5

Table of number of Deaths and Crude Death Rates (1945-1956).

YEAR				DEATH		YEAR				DEATH	
				NUMBER	RATE					NUMBER	RATE
1945	....	....	....	200	11.42	1951	....	....	....	209	8.17
1946	....	....	....	180	9.83	1952	....	....	....	222	8.68
1947	....	....	....	206	11.8	1953	....	....	....	337	12.8
1948	....	....	....	205	10.4	1954	....	....	....	356	13.3
1949	....	....	....	227	11.2	1955	....	....	....	401	14.96
1950	....	....	....	200	8.5	1956	....	....	....	461	16.65

Table of Infant Mortality (1945-1956).

YEAR				RATE		YEAR				RATE	
				PER 1,000	BIRTHS					PER 1,000	BIRTHS
1945	....	....	....	17	50.0	1951	....	....	....	11	34.9
1946	....	....	....	11	33.64	1952	....	....	....	8	27.3
1947	....	....	....	18	46.99	1953	....	....	....	10	28.7
1948	....	....	....	10	30.4	1954	....	....	....	4	11.7
1949	....	....	....	1	3.3	1955	....	....	....	5	13.7
1950	....	....	....	6	18.6	1956	....	....	....	5	11.65

Deaths from Measles (all ages) .... Nil

Deaths from Whooping Cough .... Nil

Particulars of unusual or excessive mortality during the year.

				FE-		IN	
	MALE	MALE	TOTAL	1955			
(i) Diseases of the Heart and Circulatory System	....	....	....	81	120	201	157
(ii) Cancer	....	....	....	33	30	63	57
(iii) Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	....	....	....	22	54	76	77
(iv) Cancer of Lungs (included in (ii) above)	....	....	....	6	1	7	12
(v) Coronary disease of Heart (included in (i) above)	....	....	....	40	33	73	

## CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1956

	MALE	FEMALE
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ....	6	3
Other forms of Tuberculosis ....	—	—
Other Infective or Parasitic Diseases ....	1	1
Cancer (all sites) ....	33	30
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System ....	22	54
Diseases of Heart and Circulatory System ....	81	120
Bronchitis ....	9	8
Pneumonia ....	12	13
Influenza ....	1	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System ....	3	2
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ....	1	2
Leukaemia ....	2	—
Diabetes ....	—	3
Congenital Malformations ....	—	2
Hyperplasia of Prostate ....	7	—
Suicide ....	2	2
Motor Vehicle Accidents ....	4	—
All other Accidents ....	—	4
All other causes ....	12	20
	<hr/> 196	<hr/> 265

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

### Public Health Officers in Chester Rural District

#### SECTION B

##### Medical Officer of Health

W. J. Birchall, M.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

##### Chief Public Health Inspector, Cleansing Superintendent and Meat Inspector

H. E. Stone, M.A.P.H.I., R.S.I., and Joint Board Certificate for Sanitary Inspectors, Liverpool University Certificate for Sanitary Knowledge and Meat and other Foods, Cambridge University Certificates.

##### Additional Public Health Inspectors

J. G. Wilkes, R.S.I., and Joint Certificate for Sanitary Inspector, Meat and other Foods, Liverpool University. Certificate for Sanitary Knowledge and Meat and other Foods.

E. Clarkson, M.A.P.H.I., R.S.I., and Joint Board Certificate for Sanitary Inspectors, R.S.I. Meat and Other Foods, Liverpool University Certificate for Sanitary Knowledge and other Foods. Liverpool University Certificate for Smoke Abatement and Fuel Economy. Mr. Clarkson commenced his duties on the 1st November, 1956.



**Pupil Public Health Inspector**

A. White.

**Clerk/Typists**

Miss E. Boden.

Miss V. Bushell.

**(a) Laboratory Facilities**

The Regional Laboratory Service under Ministry of Health is available at Birkenhead for free examination of Bacteriological specimens.

The services of the Pathological Department, Chester Royal Infirmary, are utilised for Chemical Examinations.

**(b) Ambulance Facilities**

Infectious Diseases are removed to Clatterbridge Isolation Hospital by the Cheshire County Council Ambulances, assisted by the Chester City Ambulances, acting as an Agency Service. Accident and Sick cases are also removed to hospitals in Chester, Clatterbridge and Liverpool by the County and City Ambulances. There are no special Ambulances for Infectious cases, with the exception of Smallpox.

**(c) Nursing in the Home**

Home Nursing in the Rural District is undertaken by District Nurses working under the direction of the Cheshire County Council, which is the Local Health Authority.

**(d) Treatment Centres and Clinics** including Clinics solely for diagnosis or consultation. The County Council Clinics are available for residents in this area at:—

Upton: Infant Welfare Clinic

Saughall: Infant Welfare Clinic.

Barrow: Infant Welfare Clinic.

Huntington: Infant Welfare Clinic.

Chester: Orthopaedic and Tuberculosis.

**(e) Hospitals**

The General Hospitals at Chester, Clatterbridge and Liverpool are available for residents in the district as well as Special Treatment Centres in Chester and Liverpool. There is in addition a special Hospital at Barrow for the treatment of Tuberculosis.

**SECTION 47, NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT**

The provisions of the above Act enable a Local Authority to apply for the compulsory removal to a hospital or County Council Hostel of aged and infirm persons who are in need of care and attention, and are unable to care for themselves. A number of such cases were investigated and were recommended for accommodation in Hospitals or County Council Hostels and agreed to removal; it was necessary to take action under the above Section of the Act in one instance, namely, an old man was removed to the City Hospital, Chester, under a Magistrate's Order.



# ANNUAL REPORT, 1956

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THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS, CHESTER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.  
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my twenty-sixth Annual Report covering the year 1956.

For some years there has been agitation to change the designation of the Sanitary Inspector and in August a Bill was passed and received the Royal Assent to be placed on the statute book changing the designation from Sanitary Inspector to "Public Health Inspector" a fact which during the debate stage raised many strong arguments in Parliament, both for and against, some of which were complimentary, other somewhat derogatory, yet tinged with many quips of good humour all of which have been appreciated by the members of what I believe to be a very honourable profession.

With the advent of 1956 the new Food Hygiene Regulations came into force, also the new Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and with the object of assisting all food distributors and handlers in your district shopkeepers were provided with a simple and understandable precis of the Regulations so that all concerned could be made aware of their requirements with a view to making whatever adjustments were necessary without statutory action having to be taken by your staff and to give them the opportunity of raising any questions on matters that were not quite clear to them.

As was anticipated, the additional work placed in the department made it necessary to augment the staff, which you readily realised, and in September you interviewed a short list of six applicants for the post of Additional Public Health Inspector. The successful applicant was Mr. E. Clarkson, who commenced his duties with you on 1st November, 1956.

Meat and other Foods inspection has continued to take its quota of time, but the master butchers are to be complimented on their ready willingness to assist the inspectors in their important work by arranging their times of slaughter to cause as little inconvenience as possible, which fact is greatly appreciated by this department.

Housing continues to claim its quota of time by the inspections necessary in connection with your Slum Clearance scheme and the examination of applications for house-letting.

Once again I am pleased to record my happy association with the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, and my thanks are due to you for your continued expression of confidence in me and your staff.

It is also my pleasure to record the loyal service and support I have received from both Mr. Wilkes and Mr. Clarkson as your additional Public Health Inspectors. As was anticipated the services of Mr. C. Feather were lost to the department in June, when he was called to do his National Service. The Pupil Public Health Inspector, Mr. A. White, is making good progress in his studies and his terminal reports show good prospects for his ultimate success.

Your Foreman, Water Inspector and the members of the outdoor staff have continued to give good service to the department, and I am grateful to the two former members for their continued loyalty and my happy association with them.

I am, Mr. Chairman,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

H. E. STONE, M.A.P.H.I.,

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

## SECTION C

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

#### Water Supply

There is nothing I can add to my reports of previous years. The entire district continues to receive a satisfactory supply of water in 47 of its 49 Parishes. Of the two Parishes without a piped water supply one has no habitations and the other has 6 habitations and farms which receive their supply from private wells, not so precariously during the year under review because of the abnormal rainfall experienced, as is experienced during dry spells.

It has been known for some time that the pumping plant at your own borehole at Plemstall was working to capacity and for more than 2 years you have had on order an additional pumping plant to afford the needed relief to the original pumping plant.

I am happy to report that during the year under review the additional pumping plant has been installed and it is working quite satisfactorily after overcoming 'minor teething troubles.'

It is my pleasure to report that samples of water were taken from the various sources of supply in your area and submitted for bacteriological and chemical analysis, all of which proved satisfactory and suitable for human consumption. The supply from your own borehole and that of the West Cheshire Water Board continues to be hard.

The following tabulation gives details of the piped water supply afforded in your district from water mains together with the estimated population.

PARISH	NO. OF DWELLINGS	EST. POP SUPPLIED
Aldford ....	91	345
Bache ....	28	105
Backford ....	45	169
Barrow ....	256	960
Bridge Trafford ....	10	37
Buerton ....	17	72
Capenhurst ....	111	420
Caughall ....	3	11
Chester Castle ....	1	2
Chorlton-by-Backford ....	24	90
Christleton ....	524	1965
Churton Heath ....	5	15
Claverton ....	—	—
Croughton ....	5	—
Dodleston ....	119	446
Dunham-on-the-Hill ....	155	581
Eaton ....	22	82
Eccleston ....	86	322
Elton ....	127	476
Great Boughton ....	1120	4200
Guilden Sutton ....	215	806
Hapsford ....	33	124
Hoole Village ....	93	349
Huntington ....	406	1523
Lea-by-Backford ....	58	217
Lea Newbold ....	7	27
Ledsham ....	37	139
Littleton ....	133	499
Little Stanney ....	81	304
Lower Kinnerton ....	38	144
Marlston-cum-Lache ....	30	113
Mickle Trafford ....	120	450
Mollington ....	147	551
Moston ....	77	289
Picton ....	24	90
Poulton ....	30	113
Puddington ....	106	398
Pulford ....	91	241
Rowton ....	96	360
Saighton ....	81	304
Saughall ....	599	2246
Shotwick ....	19	71
Shotwick Park ....	19	75

Stoak ....	41	154
Thornton-le-Moors ....	65	243
Upton-by-Chester ....	1578	5927
Wervin ....	22	82
Wimbolds Trafford ....	33	124
Woodbank ....	24	90
	<hr/> 7052	<hr/> 26351

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

### Barrow

The new sewage disposal plant for the treatment of sewage from Great Barrow including the Sanatorium and the Colony has been completed and put into working order, but the plant for Hollowmoor Heath has yet to be improved.

Little Barrow and Stamford Bridge areas still remain to be dealt with and attention to this end is urgently required at Stamford Bridge.

### Christleton

The necessity for the provision of sewer facilities for the Plough Lane, Brown Heath and Rake Lane area of Christleton continues to be a pressing necessity and I cannot stress too forcibly the need for the fulfilment of the scheme which was adopted as far back as 1938, credit squeeze or no credit squeeze, the health of the general public should be the primary consideration here; particularly as further development has been permitted.

### Dunham Hill

Improvements have been effected to the Talbot Road housing scheme works.

The need for a more comprehensive scheme to embrace the majority of the village is still very obvious and I am particularly concerned about the condition of the old Quarry where conditions are, to say the least, most objectionable.

### Elton

I cannot do better than to repeat my observations of last year and to ask once more is there no hope for Mount Pleasant and Marsh Lane. I am particularly apprehensive for Mount Pleasant occupiers.

### Mollington

Is a Parish which in the past five years has developed beyond all possible thought and it continues to develop residentially. It is undoubtedly a highly desirable residential area but this desirability has brought undesirable conditions in its wake, and the necessity for the provision of a sewerage scheme for

this Parish coupled with the Kingswood Lane and Parkgate Road areas of Saughall, is now very evident, and should be re-examined with a view to the promulgation of a sewerage scheme, either on the original lines of connecting to the Chester City Sewerage system, or by means of an independent sewage treatment works: the former would be the most effective.

### **Rowton**

The west side of Rowton Lane is now almost completely developed and the new sewer is appreciated. There now remains the Village proper to be accommodated, and Moore Lane, part of which is in an adjoining authority.

This latter portion has for some years been a problem from the point of view of the disposal of house drainage, there having been provided septic tank or cesspool disposal for all properties prior to 1950, with overflows to an old accommodation culverted drain which has been relaid in recent years. During the year under review 4 dwellings have been erected, all of which have septic tank drainage disposal, the overflows of which are connected to the above mentioned accommodation drain, making in all a total of 26 house drainage effluents, and there are a further 3 houses in course of construction.

This is another instance where public sewer facilities are urgently needed and the scheme that was submitted in 1938 should now be revised or re-submitted.

### **Dodleston and Lower Kinnerton**

The same conditions still obtain, with the possible exception that the overloaded plant at Balderton is now aggravated.

It would appear the time has now arrived for a new scheme of public sewers and new disposal plants to be gone into with a view to accommodating both Parishes. It need not necessarily mean the abolition of the plant at Balderton, but the diversion of a part of the village of Dodleston could be carried out with advantage.

### **Pulford**

Similar remarks apply in this case. It is interesting to note that the new sewerage scheme of the Wrexham Rural District Council at Lavister is now making good progress, and it may be you would consider it advisable for the link up to be proceeded with.

### **Saughall**

I have already referred to the urgency for the provision of a sewerage system to accommodate the Parkgate Road, Fiddlers Lane and Kingswood Lane areas of this Parish to link up with a scheme for Mollington.



The extension of the sewer in Long Lane to accommodate the Coalpit Lane area is now more pronounced.

### **Capenhurst**

The necessity for the provision of a comprehensive scheme for this Parish is quite evident and should be regarded as a necessity.

### **Cesspool Emptyer**

This vehicle is fully employed both in complying with statutory obligations and legacies of past history, and requests for help from both inside and outside your own area.

Extensive repairs were carried out during the year under review, and requests for assistance are now so numerous, that a 'waiting list' has had to be invoked, which leads me to believe the provision of another vehicle could be substantiated.

During the year it has been called for on 118 occasions and there was a waiting list of 18 requests unfulfilled at the end of 1956.

### **Drain and Sewer Tests**

During the year 77 sewer and drain tests have been carried out by this department, comprising 66 tests of drains connected to sewers, and, tests of drains connected to septic tanks.

### **Rivers and Streams**

There are some main watercourses in the area which the respective River Boards, as the supervisory authorities, refuse to adopt, and which are in need of being thoroughly cleansed and re-graded, with the consequent result that in the rain periods much land is flooded or waterlogged, arising from the inability of the ditches to drain the adjoining land, because of backing up from the main watercourses; but all the blame must not be placed with the state of the watercourses; many ditches also require the same treatment by the respective land owners or tenants; similarly if the matter is pursued to its logical conclusion, the field drains also require to be either re-laid or rodded through if the best use of the land is to be secured.

### **Public Cleansing Service**

This service is afforded to the whole of your area. At the beginning of the year there were 6,964 dwellings which received this service, and this number increased to 7,316 at the end of the year.

During the year it is estimated this service covered 49,774 miles and used 5,757 gallons of petrol; further approximately 8,574 tons of refuse were dealt with and comprised 3,825 loads, at an estimated cost of £18,529.



These figures afford interesting reading in that the following costs are arrived at:—

	£	s.	d.	
Per ton ....	2	3	6 $\frac{1}{4}$	
.. load ....	4	16	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	
.. mile ...		7	5	
.. gall ....	3	4	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	
.. house ....	2	12	2	per annum
.. house ....		1	0 $\frac{1}{4}$	per week

## Collection

No additions or replacements have been made to the 5 vehicles operating this service, but it is anticipated you will agree to the replacement of one or two vehicles in the coming year.

## Disposal

As in the past is by means of controlled tipping at the old clay pit at Hoole Bank Brickworks.

The Fordson Muledozer was delivered in April, 1956, and has given sterling service since taking delivery. It is a far superior machine to the old second-hand Angledozer, and deals with the loads much more readily and satisfactorily.

## Personnel

This comprises five teams of Drivers and Collectors, employing 19 men for collecting purposes and 5 drivers, together with 2 men for tip controlling purposes, all of whom have given efficient service under trying conditions. Protective clothing in the form of overalls and gloves is provided. A further man is employed on baling waste papers.

## Salvage

Throughout the year Waste Paper has been collected, sorted, bundled and baled, but its disposal has been very variable, dealers being very particular in what they would accept, so that the yield has only in a very small way repaid the cost of labour.

In May an appeal was made by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for all local authorities to institute a system of Iron and Steel Scrap recovery; and in June you agreed to a system of recovery of all scrap metals, ferrous and non-ferrous, also textiles and other miscellaneous items by the outdoor staff, provided the Council was not involved in any additional labour expense by way of overtime: for this you offered the Refuse Collection and Disposal staff a bonus of 50 per cent. of the total yield from the sale of all metals and textiles recovered, which in the six months of its working has proved an incentive to the men; but the credit for its success must in the

main be given to the two Tip Controllers who have been responsible for its sorting.

The following is a summary of the quantities disposed of during 1956.

CLASSIFICATION	T.	CWTS.	QRS.	LBS.	£	s.	d.
Newspapers ....	7	15	2	—	54	8	5
Mixed Papers....	35	7	3	—	239	9	11
Mixed Rags ....	7	11	3	20	148	18	6
Woollens ....	—	14	3	22	82	14	0
Lead....	—	16	2	4	66	10	5
Brass....	1	1	1	14	103	1	0
Copper (Mixed) ....	1	1	1	18	185	15	2
Aluminium (Mixed) ....	1	3	3	7	97	4	3
Heavy Scrap ....	28	16	2	—	150	17	0
Light Scrap ....	23	1	1	—	38	6	3
Miscellaneous....	4	3	3	5	152	7	6
Totals ....	111	14	3	6	£1319	12	5

## Shops

No further shops have been added to your records during the year, and it has not been necessary to take action under the Shops Acts relating to ventilation, temperature or the provision of sanitary conveniences.

## Smoke Abatement

The Clean Air Act, 1956, became operative on the 31st December, 1956, in respect of certain sections only, and the First, Second and Third Schedules which gave power to local authorities to institute smoke control areas, and requires all new furnaces (except domestic) to be smokeless as far as practicable; the height of new industrial chimneys will require local authority approval, also control of fumes and smoke from colliery spoil-banks; and local authorities may make by-laws requiring new buildings to be equipped with smokeless heating and cooking equipment.

This Act will have far reaching implications and will need very careful study; it may be necessary to work in conjunction and co-operation with adjoining authorities.

It would appear that industrial chimneys in respect of certain factories still come under the supervision of the Alkali Inspectorate, and at first sight it would seem that pollution of the atmosphere from these sources is likely to continue, so long as the manufacturers can prove they have done all in their power to relieve or abate the pollution.

## Swimming Baths and Pools

There are no private or publicly owned swimming baths or pools in your area.

Factories, Workshops and Workplaces

The number on your register remains at 53.

Rodent Control

Your district continues to be adequately inspected by your Rat Catcher who in addition to giving regular service and attention to the extermination of these vermin has also successfully taken wasps nests, treated premises for ants, and satisfactorily advised in the extermination of crickets and cockroaches.

It is gratifying to record that statutory action has not been necessary, though a few stubborn offenders have made it necessary for the department to make its intentions known in a somewhat forcible manner.

The following is a summary of the year's work:—

Number of visits made	....	....	....	....	....	1,288
Number of premises visited	....	....	....	....	....	1,181
Number of premises re-visited	....	....	....	....	....	107

SECTION D

HOUSING

During the year 96 Council houses have been erected by you; and it was gratifying to see the completion of the thousandth house late in the year, which you very properly made the occasion for an official opening, which was happily performed by the Chairman of the Cheshire County Council in the presence of other Civic dignitaries.

At the end of the year there were 923 houses occupied, whilst 74 were in the course of construction; and you have plans for the erection of a further 178 houses.

The following is a summary of the progress of your various schemes and I am indebted to your Architect, Mr. T. C. R. Eaton, for the details now made available.

	TOTAL NO. OF HOUSES TO BE ERECTED	NO. OF HOUSES ERECTED AND OCCUPIED AT 31.12.56	NO. OF HOUSES IN COURSE OF CONSTRUCTION AT 31.12.56	NO. OF HOUSES PROPOSED TO BE ERECTED
Backford	.... 20	20	—	—
Barrow	.... 40	40	—	—
Capenhurst	.... 22	22	—	—
Christleton	.... 122	100	—	22
Dodleston	.... 31	31	—	—
Dunham Hill	.... 48	48	—	—
Elton	.... 24	24	—	—
Gt. Boughton	.... 148	66	—	82
Guilden Sutton	.... 42	34	—	8

Hapsford ....	6	6	—	—
Huntington ....	54	54	—	—
Lea-by-Backford ....	8	8	—	—
Lea Newbold ....	2	2	—	—
Little Stanney ....	6	6	—	—
Lower Kinnerton ....	10	10	—	—
Mickle Trafford ....	36	36	—	—
Mollington ....	8	8	—	—
Pulford ....	8	8	—	—
Saughall ....	252	206	22	24
Shotwick ....	2	2	—	—
Stoak ....	22	4	18	—
Thornton ....	22	22	—	—
Upton-by-Chester	242	166	34	42
	<hr/> 1,175	<hr/> 923	<hr/> 74	<hr/> 178

### Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year

1. (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ..... 527
- (b) Number of inspection made for the purpose ..... 829
- (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (including under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 (Rural Housing Survey) .... Nil
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ..... Nil
- (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ..... 9
- (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ..... 63
2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notices:—
- Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequences of informal action by the local authority or their officers ..... 63

Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—

(a) Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ....	2
(a) By owners ....	2
(b) By local authority in default of owners	Nil

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ....	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices:—	
(a) By owners ....	Nil
(b) By local authority in default of owners	Nil

## SECTION E

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

#### Milk and Dairies Act, 1949

Under this Act and the Special Designation Orders made under this Act, the following licences were issued by you during 1956:—

Registered Dairies ....	8
Distributors ....	14
Dealers' Licences (Pasteurised and Sterilised) ....	14
Dealers' Licences (Tub. Tested and Accredited) ....	10
Dealers' Supplementary (Pasteurised and Sterilised)	3
Dealers' Supplementary (Tub. Tested and Accred.)	3
	<hr/> 52 <hr/>

Samples referred to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (Animal Health Division), notified as proving positive after submission to the Guinea Pig Test, and the necessary inquiries, have insured that all milk produced at such sources has been properly pasteurised before being offered for general consumption; 33 notifications were received which involved 66 visits.

#### Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Section 14

##### Ice Cream

There is a total of 43 premises registered for the sale and storage of Ice Cream, and 2 manufacturers in your area.

Most of the Ice Cream sold is pre-packed and manufactured by wholesalers of repute.

## Prepared Food

There are 14 persons and premises licenced for the manufacture of prepared foods intended for sale on your register, which have been visited, and inspections carried out under the Food Hygiene Regulations at irregular intervals.

The standard of cleanliness and preparation for storage is satisfactory.

## Meat Inspection

There are 5 private slaughterhouses regularly operating in your district including the slaughterhouse used for the slaughter of pigs by the Bacon Board at Shed Lane.

Most of the animals slaughtered in your district are intended for butchers who conduct their business in adjoining local authority areas, and it is a pleasure to record that good relations exist with them all, which compensates for the inconvenience created by the irregularity of the hours of slaughter.

It is impossible to give on the spot inspections at the time of slaughter, but all animals slaughtered are inspected as soon after slaughter as possible.

The following is a summary of the animals slaughtered and inspected in your area during 1956.

MEAT INSPECTION	BEASTS	CALVES	SHEEP AND LAMBS	PIGS	TOTAL
Number slaughtered ....	986	225	4,889	5,385	11,485
Number inspected ....	986	225	4,889	5,385	11,485

### All diseases except Tuberculosis:—

Whole carcase condemned	3	3	1	7	14
Carcases of which part or organ was condemned ....	206	—	532	474	1,212
Percentage of the number inspected, affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ....	21.1%	1.3%	10.9%	8.9%	

### Tuberculosis only:—

Whole carcasses condemned	3	—	—	5	8
Carcases of which part or organ was condemned ....	108	—	—	136	244
Percentage of the number inspected, affected with Tuberculosis ....	11.2%	—	—	2.6%	

Meat—Total weight condemned: 6 tons 19 cwts. 2 qtrs. 15 lbs.

Other Foods—Total weight condemned: 7 cwts. 2 qtrs. 20 lbs.



List of Samples for analysis obtained in the Chester Rural District during the year ended 31st December, 1956

NAME OF SAMPLE	NUMBER OBTAINED	NUMBER ADULTERATED OR NOT UP TO THE RECOGNISED STANDARD OF QUALITY, OR OTHERWISE REPORTED AGAINST	
Beef Suet—Shredded ....	1	—	
Coffee Essence ....	1	—	
Cough Mixture ....	1	—	
Cream—Tinned ....	2	—	
Curry Powder ....	1	—	
Fish Paste ....	1	—	
Flour—Self Raising ....	1	—	
Fruit—Tinned ....	1	—	
Jam—Raspberry ....	1	—	
Jellies—Table ....	1	—	
Margarine ....	1	—	
Meat Paste—Chicken	1	—	
Meat Paste—Beef ....	1	—	
Milk ....	36	2	
Mustard ....	3	—	
Pepper—White ....	1	—	
Saccharin Tablets ....	1	—	
Salad Cream ....	2	—	
Soup—Tinned ....	1	—	
Tomato Ketchup ....	2	—	
Vinegar—Malt ....	1	—	
Whiskey ....	4	—	
	—	—	
	65	2	
	—	—	

Particulars of Samples not up to Standard

NO.	SAMPLE	RESULT OF ANALYSIS	REMARKS
1.	Milk	Genuine but abnormal milk deficient in solids not fat to the extent of 1.1%	Retail Sale. No action.
2.	Milk	Genuine but abnormal milk deficient in solids not fat to the extent of 1.1%	Retail Sale. No action.

# SECTION F

## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1956

	TOTAL CASES CASES ADMITTED		
	NOTIFIED	TO HOSPITAL	DEATHS
Pneumonia ....	13	3	—
Erysipelas ....	3	—	—
Food Poisoning ....	4	—	—
Scarlet Fever ....	21	3	—
Poliomyelitis ....	2	2	—
Measles ....	21	—	—
Whooping Cough ....	55	—	—
Malaria (Military) ....	6	6	—
Dysentery ....	13	1	—
Paratyphoid ....	1	1	—
Acute Encephalitis ....	1	—	—
	140	16	—

## TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality during the year 1956

Age Periods	NEW CASES					DEATHS				
	Respiratory		Non		Total	Respiratory		Non		Total
			Respiratory	Total				Respiratory	Total	
	M	F	M	F	M & F	M	F	M	F	M & F
0-1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
5-15	1	2	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
15-25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-35	2	1	1	—	4	—	1	—	—	1
35-45	3	2	—	—	5	4	1	—	—	5
45-55	2	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	1
55-65	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
65 & upwards	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	9	5	1	1	16	6	3	—	—	9

# **FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948** **Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health**

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority ....	56	24	—	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ....	—	—	—	—
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	23	12	—	—
Totals	79	36	—	—

## **Cases in which Defects were found**

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	No. of cases in prosecutions were instituted
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	2	2	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	—	—	—	—	—
(a) insufficient ....	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	—	—
(c) not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act ....	—	—	—	—	—
Total	3	3	—	—	—

# PART VIII of the Act — OUTWORK

(Sections 110 and 111)

NUMBER OF OUT-  
WORKERS IN AUG.  
LIST REQUIRED BY  
SECTION 110 (1) (c)

NATURE OF WORK

Wearing apparel (Making, etc.)	Cleaning and	
Washing	.....	2

CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

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South-West Cheshire Divisional Health  
Committee

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# ANNUAL REPORT

1956

Dr. WALTER J. BIRCHALL, M.B., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.  
(*Divisional Medical Officer*)

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*16, White Friars,  
Chester.*

Telephone : Chester 20071 (2 lines).

# ANNUAL REPORT ON HEALTH SERVICES OF SOUTH-WEST CHESHIRE DIVISION FOR THE YEAR 1956

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Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Division includes the Borough of Ellesmere Port and the Rural Districts of Chester and Tarvin. The total population at 1st April according to the Registrar General's latest figures (mid 1955) is 77,560, and the area is 115,414 acres, which is the equivalent of 0.67 persons per acre. The number of inhabited houses is approximately 22,461, and the combined rateable value for 1956 is £555,496.

The work of the Ambulance Service continues to expand. In February, 1956, the new Depot was occupied; and at the beginning of March, with the appointment of additional staff, a full 24 hour, 7 day per week service was in operation for the first time. It was not until October that the Depot was officially opened by Viscount Leverhulme.

In other directions also there has been expansion. 1956 saw the introduction of Vaccination against Poliomyelitis. This additional preventive measure, in conjunction with B.C.G. Vaccination and the existing Vaccination sessions against Smallpox, together with the considerable Immunisation scheme against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough has strained the resources of the Health Visitors and Clerical Staffs to the utmost.

There is an urgent need for additional Health Visitors, especially in the rapidly expanding Borough of Ellesmere Port.

The Clerical Staff, with greatly increased work to cope with, has unfortunately suffered from frequent changes of staff, and some prolonged periods of sickness, which have thrown additional strain on the existing members.

The Domestic Help Service has also shown increased activity during the past year.

I would take this opportunity of reminding the Committee of the valuable services regularly performed by Voluntary Helpers at various clinic sessions throughout the district and in connection with the distribution of Welfare Foods.

Infectious Diseases again showed a pronounced incidence of Measles and Whooping Cough over other notifiable diseases.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

WALTER J. BIRCHALL, M.B., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.,  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.



# CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

## SOUTH - WEST CHESHIRE DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

Report for Year ended 31st December, 1956

N.H.S. Act, 1946 (Sec. 22)—Care of Mothers and Young Children

A. Mothers' Clinics:	NEW CASES	TOTAL ATTENDANCES
Ante-Natal ....	458	3081
Post-Natal ....	159	167
Dental		
Pre-Natal ....	2	2
Nursing Mothers ....	2	2
Dentures supplied ....	—	—

B. Young Children's Clinics:	NEW CASES	TOTAL ATTENDANCES
(1) Infant Welfare—		
To 1 year ....	893	9003
1—2 years ....	—	1753
2—5 years ....	—	1499
(2) Specialist—		
Ophthalmic ....	24	71
Dental Treatment (under 5)	122	124
E.N.T. (under 5) ....	31	38
(3) Day Nurseries—	DAILY AVERAGE NO.	TOTAL
	ATTEND- ING	ATTENDANCES
Aged 0—2 years ....	8	1818
2—5 years ....	33	8150

Details of figures (where they relate to more than one Clinic) are given hereunder:—

Eye Clinics—	NEW CASES	TOTAL ATTENDANCES
Hoole ....	5	5
Ellesmere Port ....	19	66
Totals ....	24	71
Number of children under five for whom spectacles were prescribed ....		12
Number of cases recommended for hospital treatment ....		5

Welfare Centres—	NEW	TOTAL ATTENDANCES		
	CASES	0-1	1-2	2-5
Barrow ....	19	244	114	68
Ellesmere Port	325	3057	255	196
Farndon ....	15	84	36	69
Huntington ...	41	231	57	119
Ince ....	22	203	32	44
Kelsall ....	25	285	175	147
Little Sutton	159	2065	350	255
Malpas ....	11	90	41	35
Overpool ....	84	716	77	18
Saughall ....	45	382	169	154
Tarvin ....	28	313	139	94
Tattenhall ...	26	226	55	83
Upton ....	93	1107	253	217
	893	9003	1753	1499

## SPECIAL COMMENTS

### WELFARE CENTRES AND DAY NURSERY

#### Welfare Centres

The Little Sutton Welfare Centre was decorated internally and externally at a cost of £204.

Three cubicles were provided in the Ellesmere Port Welfare Centre for use at Ante-Natal Clinics.

The Rental for the hire of the Memorial Hall at Farndon and the Vernon Institute at Saughall was increased from the 1st April, 1956.

#### Welfare Foods (Ministry)

The distribution of Welfare Foods continued satisfactorily largely owing to the splendid co-operation of the voluntary persons and the W.V.S., who have been most helpful.

A new distribution point was opened at the beginning of the year at Ashton. The distribution points at Beeston and Broxton closed during the year.

The following is a summary of the number of articles issued during the year:—

N.D.M.	C.L.O.	A/D TABLETS	O.J.
31,808	6,696	2,367	75,473

The above figures compare very favourably with the figures for the previous year.

## Day Nursery, Ellesmere Port

Attendances during the March quarter were very low, an average of only 29. The Nursery was in quarantine for the whole quarter owing to outbreaks of Scarlet Fever and Measles. In addition there were numerous absentees owing to respiratory infections—heavy feverish colds, bronchitis, etc. During May and June attendances greatly improved, the daily average being between 45—55. This high average was maintained throughout the September quarter. Attendances however dropped a little during the latter part of November. Absences were again due to respiratory infections, colds, etc.

At the close of the year there were 58 children on the register, of whom 29 were priority cases. There were 87 non-priority cases on the waiting list.

The Matron reported that she had great difficulty in keeping the Day Nursery warm, and was unable to keep the blankets adequately aired. On the recommendation of a Sub-Committee 2 Electric Convector Heaters were purchased, and 2 Electric Power points were installed. The Matron reports that the additional heating has proved quite successful.

The Nursery was closed for the Annual Holidays from the 6th to the 18th of August.

The Matron and the Staff arranged a Christmas Party for the children. The Chairman of the Committee, Mr. W. H. Backhouse, attended as Father Christmas and gave each child a present.

The Committee recommended to the County Health Committee that the charge for non-priority cases should be increased from 4/6d. to 6/- per day.

### STAFF—

There have been several changes in staff during the year, including the Deputy Matron. The Committee made the necessary appointment in each case.

### COSTS—

A comparative Statement on the costs of the Day Nurseries for the year ended 31st March, 1956, was received from the County Treasurer, and the daily cost per child during the year was as follows:—

1954-55: 9/10d.                      1955-56: 12/9d.

Average cost throughout the County was:—

1954-55: 11/11½d.                      1955-56: 11/11½d.

## MIDWIVES

Number of Births (adjusted for inward and outward transfers)—1,613 (including 28 stillbirths).

## MIDWIFERY AND HOME NURSING

### Transport

The Aldford District Nurse's car was replaced by a new Ford Popular. The old car was sold through the Measham Motor Sales Organisation Ltd. for £160/11/6.

Reconditioned engines were fitted to the Malpas District Nurse's and the Little Sutton District Midwife's cars.

Several of the other County owned cars used by the District Nurse/Midwives were repaired during the year.

### Accommodation

The Mouldsworth District Nurse's house was externally painted at a cost of £32/15/6.

A new Electric Stove was purchased for the Farndon District Nurse at a cost of £17/5/1.

## CONVALESCENCE

The sum of £155/0/0 was allocated for the year ending 31st March, 1957, for Convalescent treatment.

There were no cases for Convalescent treatment during the year.

## VACCINATION AGAINST POLIOMYELITIS

The Ministry of Health announced in February a scheme for the vaccination against Poliomyelitis of children born between January, 1947, and December, 1954.

Wide publicity was given to the scheme both in the National Press and the local newspapers giving details of the scheme and advising parents how to register their children for the vaccination. In addition, posters were displayed in Clinics, Day Nurseries, Local Government Offices and Post Offices. Consent forms were issued to school children by the Headmasters and forms for children under school age were distributed at Clinics and by personal visits by Health Visitors, and at Local Government Offices.

3,495 children were registered for the vaccination, approximately 39.2 per cent. of the children eligible.

By the end of June 238 children had received a full course of two injections, and 204 children had received one injection.

During December 152 children received their second injection and a further 31 children received a first injection.

The Vaccinations were carried out at the following Centres:—

Ellesmere Port, Little Sutton, Upton, Hoole, Divisional Office, Chester, Huntington, Kelsall, Tarvin Tattenhall, Malpas and Farndon.

## B.C.G. VACCINATION

The scheme for the B.C.G. Vaccination of school children between their 13th and 14th birthdays continued throughout the year.

The following is a summary of the work carried out:—

No. of Consent forms issued ....	746
No. of Children for whom Consent forms were returned ....	620
No. of Children tested by Patch Test ....	245
No. of Children positive to Patch Test ....	53
No. of Children tested by Mantoux Test ....	528
No. of Children positive to Mantoux Test ....	137
No. of Children Vaccinated with B.C.G. ....	375
No. of Children given 8 weeks follow-up Mantoux Test ....	247
No. of Children positive to 8 weeks follow-up Mantoux Test ....	210
No. of Children given 12 months follow-up Mantoux Test ....	103
No. of Children positive to 12 months follow-up Mantoux Test ....	86

## VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Total fees paid for the period 1.1.56—31.12.56 amounted to £329/0/0.

Statistics are as stated below:—

### A. VACCINATION

1. Primary Vaccination—	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
(a) Pre-School Children ....	363	288	651
(b) School Children ....	10	6	16
(c) Adults ....	7	15	22
Total	380	309	689
<hr/>			
(2). Re-Vaccination—			
(a) Pre-School Children ....	15	15	30
(b) School Children ....	10	11	21
(c) Adults ....	31	20	51
Total	56	46	102

### B. DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

#### Incomplete

(a) Pre-School Children ....	48	48	96
(b) School Children ....	1	—	1
Total	49	48	97

#### Completed

(a) Pre-School Children ....	372	358	730
(b) School Children ....	22	27	49
Total	394	385	779

#### Re-Immunised

All Children ....	86	78	164
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### C. WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION

(a) Pre-School Children ....	416	382	798
(b) School Children ....	11	21	32
Total	427	403	830

These figures are not final as records are still being received for services performed during 1956.

### AMBULANCE SERVICE

The Ambulance Depot was completed in February, and was officially opened by the Rt. Hon. Viscount Leverhulme, T.D., on the 19th October.

The Ambulance Service operated from the new Depot on Monday, 13th February. Full time manning of the Service commenced on Sunday, 11th March. Thus for the first time the Depot was manned for the full 24 hours, 7 days each week: and the establishment of driver attendants had been increased accordingly to maintain this service.

It was agreed by Representatives of the Committee and the County Fire Brigade Committee that the grounds surrounding the new Ambulance Depot and Fire Station at Ellesmere Port should be jointly laid out and maintained. The tender of A. T. Brickwood Ltd., of Loughborough, was accepted for the lay-out of the grounds at a cost of £370/11/0.

The total mileage performed by the vehicles of the Divisional Ambulance Service was again higher than the previous year. In 1955 the total mileage was 125,826, as against 141,632 for 1956. Similarly the number of patients transported was also higher than the previous year. In 1955, 13,505 patients were transported, in 1956 this number had increased to 14,908.



The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year.

	No. of Vehicles 1	Total No. of Journeys 2	Total No. Patients carried 3	No. of Accident and Emergency Journeys included in Column 3 4	Total Mileage 5
A. Directly Provided—					
Ambulances ....	3	2,188	5,982	653	49,407
Cars ....	4	2,582	8,926	282	92,225
B. By Agency—					
Ambulances ....	5	2,409	2,409	290	15,448
Cars .... (Chester City Amb.)	—	—	—	—	—
C. Supplementary—					
Ambulances ....	—	1	1	1	24
W.V.S., Taxi, etc. (Cars)	—	148	175	—	7,624

A comparative Statement on the costs of the Ambulance Service for the year ended 31st March, 1956, was received from the County Treasurer, and the cost per mile was as follows:—

	1954/55	1955/56
Ambulances ....	1/8d.	2/1½d.
Sitting Case Cars ....	1/3¼d.	1/5¾d.

The average cost throughout the County was:—

	1954/55	1955/56
Ambulances ....	2/7¼d.	2/9½d.
Sitting Case Cars ....	1/6¼d.	1/8¼d.

## Staff

The Committee approved the appointment of 5 additional Driver Attendants, 1 Driver Mechanic and 1 cleaner, in accordance with the revised establishment.

The personnel Establishment is as follows:—

- 1 Supervisor.
- 1 Senior Driver.
- 13 Driver Attendants.
- 1 Driver Mechanic.
- 1 Female Cleaner part-time.

There were no resignations during the year.

Telephones were installed in the homes of 3 additional Driver/Attendants, making the total 4, for the purpose of "On Call" duties. In addition to the full time manning of the Ambulance Service 2 Driver/Attendants are "On Call" from 6 p.m. to 7 a.m. Monday to Friday, and 6 p.m. Saturday to 7 a.m. Monday.

Five members of the Ambulance Staff were awarded Diplomas by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, and another member was awarded a bar to his five-year medal.

## Transport

A new Dual Purpose Vehicle (Stretcher and Sitting Case) was received in October, replacing one of the Austin Sitting Case Cars. The Austin Sitting Case Car was sold through the Measham Motor Sales Organisation for the sum of £229/12/6.

The Humber Ambulance MLG.928 was involved in an accident and was extensively damaged. The vehicle has been repaired and is now on the road.

## PREVENTION OF ILLNESS — CARE AND AFTER-CARE TUBERCULOSIS

### A. No. of cases investigated in Division:—

#### (1) Tuberculosis—

(a) No. of Forms C. & A.C. 4 completed ....	28
(Primary Investigation).	
(b) No. of Forms C. & A.C. 22 completed ....	266
(Follow-up visits).	
(c) No. of cases where patient has been found to have:—	
(a) Removed from area ....	20
(b) Been cured ....	8
(c) Recovered ....	6
(d) Died ....	5

#### (2) Other than Tuberculosis—

All cases of chronic illness awaiting admission to Chronic Wards or suitable Institutions are visited regularly by Health Visitors until admission is effected.

### B. Number of cases placed in employment (Disabled Persons Act) .... 1

### C. Nursing Equipment:—

#### (a) Particulars of new items of nursing equipment purchased:—

- 1 Second-hand Invalid wheel chair, £3/10/0.
- 1 Latex Rubber Mattress, £8/13/5.

#### (b) In one case the rental for a wheel chair was cancelled, in another the rental and deposit for a rubber mattress was cancelled.

## DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

There has been a substantial increase in the demand for the Domestic Help Service throughout the year. At the commencement of the year there were only 35 cases where there was a continued need for domestic help; at the end of the year this number had increased to 52. Apart from 7 cases, the help has been given to aged persons who are infirm and in need of assistance. The number of hours that domestic help is given to each patient varies from 3 hours to 24 hours per week, and the duration of the Service varies in accordance with the need of each particular case. In some cases the need is a permanent one, in other cases awaiting admission to hospital or a County Welfare Home, or in many cases for the remainder of the patient's life.

The following is a summary of the cases of continued need at the end of the year:—

- 1 case has had Domestic Help for 6 years.
- 5 cases have had Domestic Help for 5 years.
- 5 cases have had Domestic Help for 4 years.
- 1 case has had Domestic Help for 3½ years.
- 1 case has had Domestic Help for 3 years.
- 2 cases have had Domestic Help for 2 years.
- 6 cases have had Domestic Help for 1½ years.
- 7 cases have had Domestic Help for 1 year.
- 24 cases have had Domestic Help for less than 1 year.

Every effort was made in conjunction with the Health Visitors, to keep the costs down to a minimum without impairing the efficiency of the service.

The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year:—

- A. Number of new applicants ..... 94  
(of these 41 were cancelled).
  - B. Number of Domestic Helps employed at 31.12.56 40
  - C. Number of cases attended during the year .... 91
  - D. Number of cases of continued need at 31.12.56 52
- 38 cases were brought to the attention of the Committee during the year.
- 11 cases were defined as Future Recovery cases.
- 8 Future Recovery cases were cancelled.
- In 3 Future Recovery cases collection was approved.
- In 9 cases the debt was cancelled.
- In 3 cases the debt was referred to the County Clerk for necessary action.
- In 3 cases the assessment was reduced.
- In 1 case the reduction in the assessment was not granted.

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 (PART III)

In my capacity as the Representative of the County Medical Officer of Health, I carried out two visits of inspection to Shotwick House, Great Saughall. Very little change had taken place since 1955, and the excellent conditions of this establishment continued to maintain a high level.

### ESTIMATES 1957/58

Estimates for the year 1957/58 were submitted, and following is a summary of the items recommended to the County Health Committee for approval and inclusion in the block estimates:—

	£
Welfare Centres ....	2,165
Day Nursery ....	2,135
Midwifery ....	185
Health Visiting ....	30
Home Nursing ....	1,405
Vaccination and Immunisation ....	745
Ambulance Service ....	6,630
Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care ....	275
B.C.G. ....	50
Domestic Helps ....	3,850
Administration ,... ..	5,445
Payment of County Districts for Notifications of Infectious Diseases ....	250
	<hr/>
	£23,165
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# INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED, 1956

DISTRICT	DISEASE																													
	Paratyphoid Fever		Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Malaria		Measles		Pneumonia		Dysentery		Food Poisoning		Erysipelas		Paralytic		Non-Paralytic		Acute Poliomyelitis		Acute Encephalitis		Puerperal Pyrexia			
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Ellesmere Port																														
Municipal Boro	2	—	25	25	76	80	—	—	131	167	6	6	9	8	—	—	4	2	—	—	—	2*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Chester R.D.C	—	1	9	12	26	29	8+	—	10	11	3	10	3	10	1	3	1	2	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tarvin R.D.C.	—	—	9	6	23	26	—	—	19	11	13	15	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Totals	2	1	43	43	125	135	8+	—	160	189	22	31	12	19	1	3	5	4	1	—	—	3	—	1	—	1	—	—	2	

\* Includes 1 case diagnosed in Clatterbridge Hospital.

† Military Cases.

# Statistics relating to cases of Tuberculosis on Notification Registers of District Councils in the Division

	MALES			FEMALES			TOTALS	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total	Pulmonary	Total Cases
1. Cases on Register at 1.1.56 ... ..	245	89	334	237	73	310	482	644
2. Cases notified and transfers into area during year ... ..	17	2	19	21	8	29	38	48
3. Number of cases re-moved from Register during year ... ..	18	1	19	18	2	20	36	39
4. Cases on Register at 31.12.56 ... ..	244	90	334	240	79	319	484*	653*

\* This figure is made up as follows:—

	Non-Pulmonary		Total
1. Ellesmere Port M.B. ....	247	81	328
2. Chester R.D.C. ....	148	36	184
3. Tarvin R.D.C. ....	89	52	141
	484	169	653





